

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

September 24, 2004

Ms. Karen Tandy  
Administrator  
Drug Enforcement Administration  
2401 Jefferson Davis Highway  
Alexandria, VA 22301

Dear Administrator Tandy:

We are writing today to express our concern about the rampant spread of methamphetamines (meth) across our nation. In areas where this scourge has struck, it has left behind a heavy toll in the form of burned out lives, scarred communities, and frustrated law enforcement officials who are being overwhelmed by this horrible drug.

Methamphetamine is a particularly difficult drug to combat because it can be manufactured almost anywhere from precursor chemicals such as pseudoephedrine, anhydrous ammonia, red phosphorus, and iodine, which are readily available to the general public at numerous retail stores. While Congress and several states have responded to the meth epidemic by passing precursor control laws, the drug's increasing prevalence makes it obvious that more must be done to keep the chemicals required to make meth out of the hands of criminals.

We believe that putting additional precursor control laws on the books holds the potential to substantially reduce the use and manufacture of meth, thereby preventing lives from being shattered by addiction, reducing crime, and alleviating the burden on local and Federal law enforcement agencies. We request that the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), which has made a commendable effort to control the manufacturing and trafficking of meth, conduct a comprehensive review of our nation's precursor control laws and programs, determine what changes need to be made, and make recommendations for legislation to Congress. Among the issues and questions that we request you address as part of this review are:

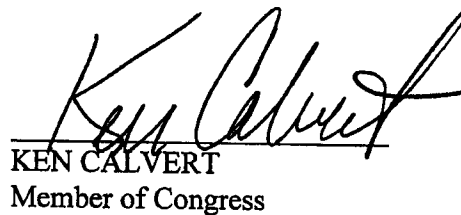
1. Pseudoephedrine, the main ingredient in meth, is readily available for meth cooks from both legitimate retail sources and illegal smuggling. What steps need to be taken to prevent meth manufacturers from obtaining sufficient quantities of pseudoephedrine, both from retail establishments and on the black market?
2. Several states, including Oregon and California, have passed strong precursor control laws that could serve as a model for additional federal laws. Could adoption of any provisions of these state precursor control laws by the federal government help control the spread of meth precursors?

3. Substantial quantities of precursors, especially pseudoephedrine, are smuggled in from foreign countries. What steps need to be taken to halt the illegal importation of precursor chemicals from foreign countries?
4. With meth affecting more and more communities across the nation, we see substantial political support for reasonable steps to limit this drug's impact.

Thank you for your prompt response to our request. We look forward to working with the DEA to help eliminate this scourge on our nation's communities.

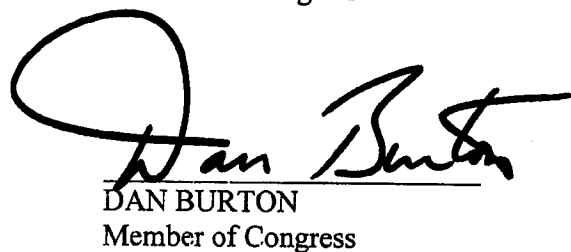
Sincerely,

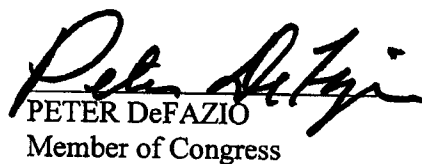
  
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Member of Congress

  
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Member of Congress

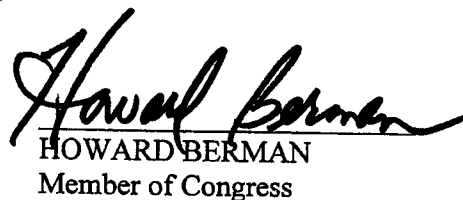
  
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Member of Congress

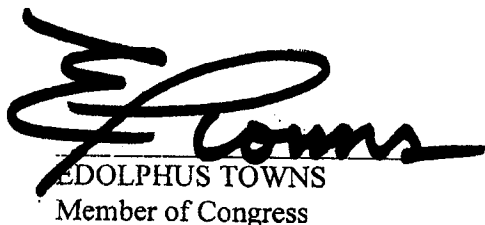
  
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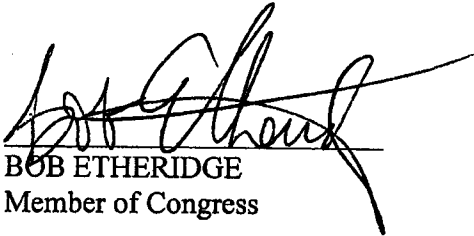
  
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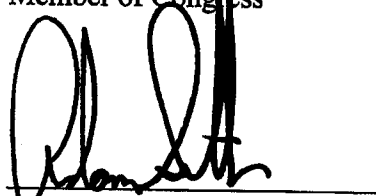
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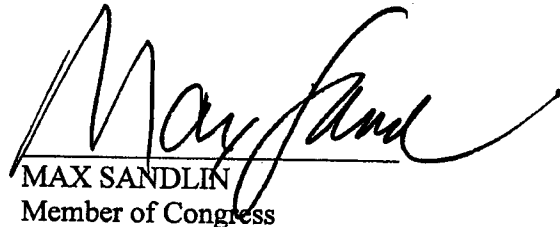
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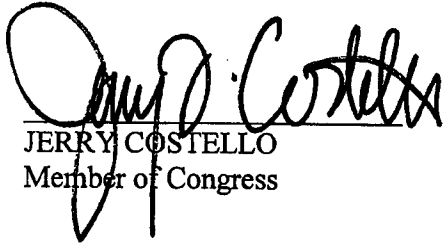
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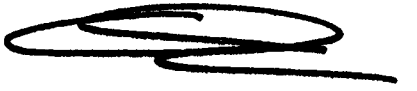
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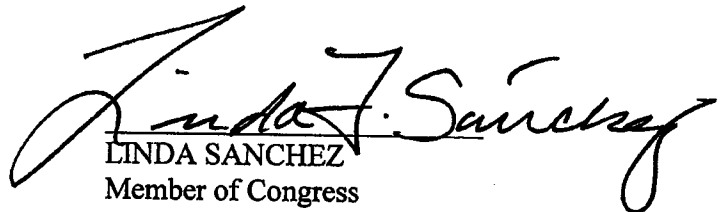
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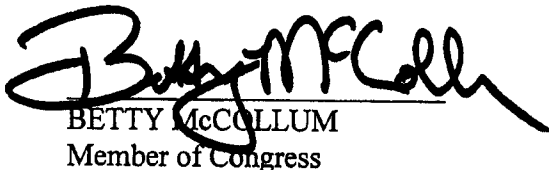
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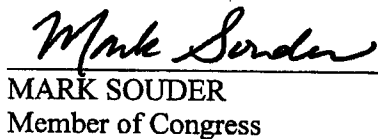
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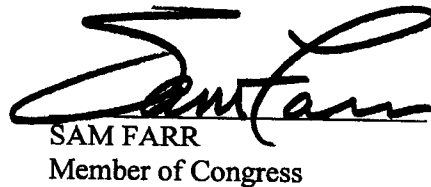
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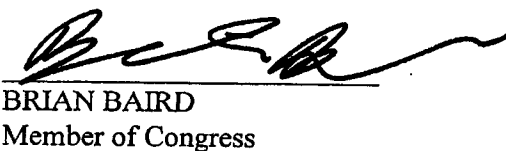
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RON KIND  
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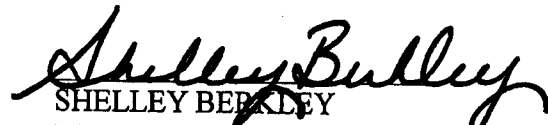


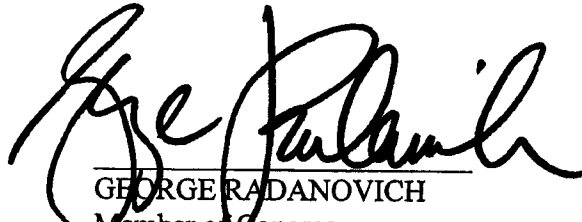
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Member of Congress




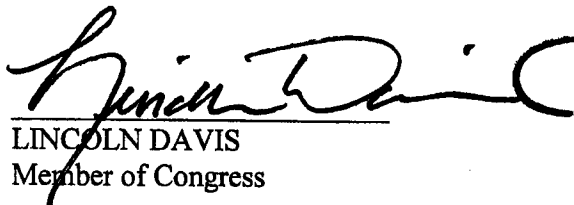
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Member of Congress

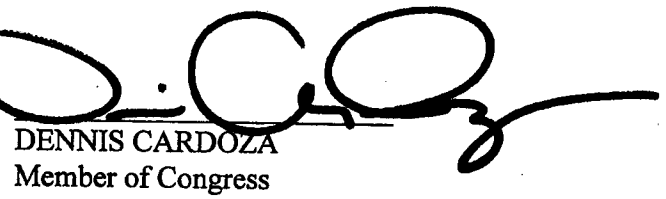
  
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